



unity Church of New Hope

April, 2009

REFLECTIONS

By Rev. Ellen Davis, Minister



My mother recently shared with me some insights about how much the world has changed since she was a child.

I personally am amazed by the astonishing growth in technology. I thought I could keep up with the changes in computers & cell

phones but then I never thought about Ipods, wii machines, etc.

I could go on and on about other changes too but we all know and live with these changes everyday. The challenge is how to work and operate responsibly in the world we find ourselves in.

I remember a popular play entitled "Stop the World, I Want to Get Off". I am sure there are days when we all feel like this. There are some changes that are possibly fearful such as corporations needing financial bailouts, large layoffs, increase in fuel costs, environmental issues, etc.

My personal opinion is that we are all here on planet earth by choice to help with the transformation that is taking place. I feel it is important to let go of fear and to find our purpose.

Whenever I am in a space of concern about anything going on in my life, I connect to God/Spirit in prayer, journaling and meditation. Affirming "God is my source" for all that I need gives me peace about any lack that I have.

As you become centered in prayer, guidance will come to you in the most amazing ways. You will be in the right place at the right time as you begin to feel attuned to Spirit/God.

We all have a purpose to fill and I realized this even more after spending almost a week in Nixa, MO with my 10 year old granddaughter, Re

becca, and my 15 year old grandson, Marshall. We went to the Jim Stafford Show in Branson where we listened to Jim talk about how children seem to be born knowing how to work with computers. This is so true. Most of the children I know are so talented and intelligent.

I was impressed with how different both grandchildren are and how they seem to know what they want to do with their lives. Rebecca loves animals and knows the scientific names of all the fauna, plant life and fish in their 135 gallon salt water aquarium. She maintains this aquarium as well as her own smaller salt water aquarium in her bedroom and a fresh water aquarium in another room. Then there is the cockatiel bird, a black cat and a white labrador retriever. At this point she wants to do something with animals.

Marshall is a real mix. He enjoys acting and is in the high school drama department, is on the wrestling team, and loves to drive cars (has his learner's permit). He is now a tenor in the high school choir and enjoys dancing. He is a whiz on the Wii Guitar Hero game and loves music in general. He is starting to get really interested in dating.. Right now his main interest is drama.

Each one of us is unique and different. Having a purpose helps give meaning to life and makes our days more fulfilling and joyful.

No matter what is happening with the world, we can enjoy the journey of life. The movie our church is showing during April explores this topic (Ambition to Meaning with Wayne Dyer). I will also start a series of talks based on Wayne Dyer's book, "Inspiration".

April is very special at our church as we celebrate Palm Sunday and Easter. The children are having an Easter Egg Hunt and we will be having a special Easter Potluck dinner. More details are in the newsletter.

See you soon! Ellen

Youth and Family Ministries

Meet Stephani Mazy — New Youth Director

Hello to everyone! My name is Stephani Mazy and I am the new Director of Youth and Family Ministries here at Unity of New Hope.

I was first introduced to Unity by my mom, Shari Turner, about 8 years ago. Back then the church was located in Denton and I only had one child. Now I have four amazing kids and blessed to be a stay-at-home mom. Nikolas is 10 years old and is my redneck. He loves all things outdoors. Kaleigh is 4 years old and my diva. She is a girl who knows what she wants and isn't afraid to go after it. Stephen, a.k.a Pokey, is 2 years old and is rough and tumble, a mama's boy, and class clown all rolled into one. RJ is 10 months old and of course spoiled by the whole family! My husband, Rusty, is the Director of Operations for 25 area Sonic Drive-In's. He was my high school sweetheart and we have been married for 12 years this month.

I am looking forward to building upon the great foundation that Mary and Lin have established with the youth program. I am also excited to be working with the wonderful teachers they have put together and hoping to add a few new faces. I am a believer in the old saying "It takes a village to raise a child" so I welcome any ideas, questions, or concerns you might have about our children's program. I am confident that through love, prayer, and support our youth and family program will thrive.

Thank you for your support and confidence in me to help lead your children in their spiritual quest.

Blessings,
Stephani Mazy

Note from Ellen

I used to meet with Stephani when she was a Sunday School teacher 8 years ago and she did an excellent job as a teacher. I am excited that she is now our Youth Director. Pamela Sybert and I met with her and she has a lot of ideas for the program.

Thanks, Stephani, for joining our Sunday School staff as its Director!

EASTER EGG HUNT!!!!
Immediately after church on Easter!!!

Each child is asked to bring an Easter basket. There will be extras for those who forget!!!

The Secret Column

By June Fish

When I was young, many, many years ago, I believed that what I thought made no difference, as long as I didn't say it, or act on it. My thoughts were like my own private, secret world, not effecting others, or me. WRONG!

I have learned that there are no "neutral" thoughts. They all have vibration and attract like vibrations to them and me and connect me to others with similar vibration thoughts. They are creative. All thoughts, good, bad or what seem to be indifferent thoughts create in their own likeness.

I saw The Secret DVD a few years ago, and have learned about the Law of Attraction. I have tried to apply it in my daily life, and I am very grateful for my many blessings, but often it seemed I couldn't get out of my old patterns of thinking, worrying and fearing what I didn't want.

Just recently I saw a little more clearly, how deeply these old patterns have dug themselves into my subconscious. On the surface, I know about thinking and feeling positively and I really do desire to not only believe it, but to "BE-LIVE" it.

But underneath the surface, I saw that my reaction to most mundane, daily occurrences could be quite negative. I never noticed that before. It was such a habit, it had become my way of thinking, without really thinking or being conscious of what I was thinking.

There are all kinds of different situations that we can have negative attitudes about, but as an example, I'm sure we can all relate to bill paying "blues" and financial worries. Even though I affirm abundance, my habitual attitude was that my limited finances were being drained and I couldn't do anything about it. It was a feeling of lack of abundance, a fear that I might run out of money especially in today's economy. I wanted to hang on to what I had. I'm not talking about a terrible, severe panic attack. It was just an underlying discomfort that has been there for so long, I never really paid any attention to it, other than try to ignore it and move on to something pleasant. It was just the way things were and had always been. I guess you could say I was comfortable with that discomfort, because it was familiar and I didn't know any other way.

But I DO know a better way!

Occasionally, I receive financial report booklets on the companies I have investments in. It had been my habit to think something like this: "Oh, dear, another report on some company that probably is losing more of my money. I don't understand finances, and I don't know what to do about it, the economy is so bad now. I wish this would just go away." It is a negative, helpless, withdrawing attitude. Then I would throw it in the trash as if I had no connection with it.

The last time I got a booklet, I threw it away as usual, then I became aware of my negative attitude and chose to change it. I retrieved it from the wastebasket, held it in my hands, up close to my heart and I felt a love for the booklet. Then I felt a love for the company it represented. It expanded to all the people who worked for the company, and their families. I identified with them as being just like me, being my friends, working for their living and doing the best they could. I "saw" the company and the people in it being blessed and growing profitably in every way. I felt it. It felt good. It made me feel good. I became aware of the difference in that good feeling of love and appreciation, acceptance and connection as I compared it to the "down" feeling I felt before. Why would I ever choose the "down" feeling?

I see a need to explore other areas of my attitude and reaction to daily situations and apply that same acceptance and love instead of resistance and fear. It makes me feel good and feeling good attracts more good feelings and more things to feel good about.

Unity of Denton
6071 New Hope Rd.
Krugerville, TX 76227
940-365-3435
[Http://www.unityofnewhope.org](http://www.unityofnewhope.org)

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DENTON, TX
PERMIT NO. 920

Return Service Requested
Postmaster please deliver
by
April 12, 2009



JOIN US FOR EASTER

APRIL 12TH

11:00 AM

Music by our ensemble group led by Kathryn Kalahan

Beautiful flower cross

Easter potluck dinner afterwards

(Meat is provided)

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Classes & Events

All classes are offered on a love offering basis. Each class stands on its own and anyone may attend at any time during the course of study.

Often people are confused about why we take up an offering for a class. There are 3 basic reasons:

1. The teacher is paid 1/2 of the offerings of the class for the effort, time and materials for the class.
2. The church is reimbursed for the use of the facility in terms of utilities advertising, etc.
- 3.

This church is totally supported entirely by love offerings and donations.

Ongoing Classes

SUNDAYS	<u>Wednesdays</u>
<p>Spirit Quest 6:00 PM Email Lance & Mary Oliver for a schedule</p> <p>Artists Way on April 5th only 9:30 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mondays</u></p> <p>Yoga for Unity! 6:30-7:30 PM Sue Greenwood—registered Yoga Teacher and Yoga Therapist</p> <p>This class is for all levels, anyone who wants to explore the breath and create space in the body. For more information or to schedule a private therapy session with Sue please email her at se3f@yahoo.com or check out her website at www.sadhanayoga.org</p> <p>Meditation Classes 7:30 PM Lane Pierce, Facilitator</p> <p>Monday night meditation begins on March 2nd & 16th and will run on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Check the church calendar for details. You can access all events on the church calendar at http://tinyurl.com/6vanph Come join us for a powerful group meditation.</p>	<p>Letters on Huna 7:00 PM Michael Longshore, Judy Prouty Lane Pierce</p> <p>Aloha!</p> <p>The Huna class continues to provide a plethora of social as well as educational growth opportunities. We are now approaching the half way point in our studies "Letters On Huna" A Course in the Fundamentals of Huna Psychology.</p> <p>Mahalo!</p> <p>Michael, Judy and Lane</p> <p>Spiritual Discussion Class 10:30 AM Facilitated by Ellen Davis</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Visioning & Treasure Mapping Your Life</p> <p>7:30 PM Ellen Davis & Lane Pierce</p> <p>What are your heart's desires? How can you bring more creativity into your life and a feeling of really being on your life path?</p>

CHURCH STAFF

Minister:	Ellen Davis
Music Director:	Kathryn Kalahan
Youth Ed:	Stephani Mazy
	Mary McFall
	Mary Oliver
	Nancy Kremer
	Shari Turner
Office	Colleen Pierce
	Kay Lamb

Board of Trustees

President	Mik Birze
Vice President	Lance Oliver
Secretary	Fred Perrin
Treasurer	Dale Yeatts
Member	Sue Greenwood
Member	Colleen Pierce

Ministry of Fellowship & Activities

Lou Longshore	Colleen Pierce
Pamela Sybert	
Lisa Reed	

Chaplaincy Prayer Chaplain Ministry

Sue Greenwood	Shari Turner
Lane Pierce	
Colleen Pierce	
Carin Horn	

Volunteer Ministry

Pamela Sybert

Finance Ministry

Linda D' Amanda, Chairperson
Robert Horn
Nancy Kremer
Ellen Davis
Mik Birze
Dale Yeatts

Make Pretty Ministry

Brigitte Birze
Colleen Pierce
Olivia Walker

IT Committee

Dale Yeatts
Lane Pierce
Jon Kaeton

Bookstore Volunteers

Darlene Kaeton
Carla Quinn
Lou Longshore
Pamela Sybert
Colleen Pierce



Landscape Update:

By Dale Yeatts

The church has received a donation to cover the cost of a sprinkler system for the parking lot side and road side of the church. Hurray! Donations are currently being accepted for the cost of specific plants to be planted on the parking lot side of the church. If you would like to donate to this cause, a list of various plants and their prices are provided on the bulletin board in the church hallway. You can sign up for one.

Or, if you prefer, please feel free to use PayPal on the church website to provide your donation. Specific plants to be purchased and needing a donor include:

1 Savannah Holly —30 gallon	\$225
2 Crepe Myrtles—6-8'	\$88 each
10 Indian Hawthorne 3 gallon	\$17 each
12 Abelia's 3 gallon	\$17 each
4 Knock Out Roses 3-5 gallon	\$24 each
12 Spireas	\$21 each
27 Perennials:	\$6 each
30 Grasses	\$8.50 each
10 Ground Covers	\$40 Each



Thanks to Spirit Quest for donating a Smoke tree 6-8' tall at \$150.

Thanks also to 2 donors for 2 crepe myrtles, 4 2 Knock Out Roses, and for 3 perennials. The items listed above are what are still needed.

Note from Ellen:

Thanks to Sheila Walker who is working on this project and Dale Yeatts who is working with Sheila to get our landscaping accomplished..

We are working with a master plan and soon we will have a beautiful entrance to our church.

ON THE BOOKSHELF

Pam Livingston's new children's book has just arrived:

LOVE ONE ANOTHER in the Frendoval Series

This book is beautifully illustrated by Pam and shows the power of love and acceptance of all people regardless of color or looks. What a great way to introduce children to seeing the Spirit of love in others!

The Moses Code DVD and lots of other books have arrived!!!! Check out the bookstore for great gift ideas.



ee CLEF NOTES ee

Easter music is not as much fun as Christmas music. Is that just me? or have you also noticed that there are no “Easter carols”, no “Easter bells”, no cute children’s pageants, and fewer family traditions involving music. In December we can sing familiar feel-good hymns all month. In April, the only familiar singable hymn is “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”. A Hallelujah Chorus sing-along would be nice but...well, let’s keep that in mind for the future!

I usually dread having to come up with more than the usual number of musical offerings for that most special of spring Sundays. It’s difficult to find choral pieces with lyrics that truly express a Unity perspective, that happen to be wedded to interesting tunes with accessible arrangements. After eight Easters at our church I have exhausted a ton of resources. I have a stack of previous Easter choral arrangements featuring mixed and matched melodies, lyrics, and harmonies – some original, some borrowed. This year, I seemed to have run out of resources. I learned about an online new-thought music store and downloaded their Easter collection (one song), but its initial promise turned out to be disappointing. Finally, I had two bright ideas the first of which was to look one more time at the local music store.

I found a baroque “Alleluia” with a not-too-daunting arrangement and our ensemble members seem to be enjoying its energy. My second bright idea was to pray. I pray often at the piano – as in opening up to inspiration while playing. I was playing a song I wrote in 1994 that began as a love song and ended up a Christ’s love song about Easter. I used it years ago during a Unity Easter service, but hesitantly, for fear that people might not hear the title “Alien Friend” as the metaphor I intended. How strange to our ego-centered mind is Christ’s message of “seek ye first the kingdom of God”! How “alien” it is for us “worriers” to let go and trust God to supply our needs! As I played and prayed and sang, the metaphor took on a new depth - I thought about how remarkable Christ’s message must have sounded to those first-century middle-easterners who first heard it! “Love your enemies”, instead of “an eye for an eye”, and “bless those who use you”, and “turn the other cheek”? In a culture where human life was expendable, how foreign it must have seemed to hear “God knows even the number of hairs on your head”! And then to see the wind and waves obey his commands, observe the healings and the raising of Lazarus from the dead – that must have blown their minds!

So, once again, I am excited about the Easter music - and more so, because our ensemble will be singing atop our new modular stage! Thank you again to Herman Oosterwijk and to all who contributed energy, time, talent, and money to build and/or raise funds for the stage materials. We are blessed to have Herman and Johanna amongst us. Perhaps you know of their passion for building clinics in South America. The Oosterwijks recently returned from their latest charitable trip during which the recipients acknowledged Herman's building prowess and devotion to the cause by naming the clinic after Herman! Johanna told me "he was so surprised!" Somehow, with all that going on in addition to normal life-demands on his time, Hermann has managed to complete our stage in time for Easter.

One more note about Easter-time music: Kay Lamb. Kay's beautiful lyric soprano voice and her rich musical style bless us often. Kay has a generous heart and a passion for singing. Recently the Greater Denton Arts Council acknowledged Kay's artistic contributions to the community at the 2009 Community Arts Recognitions Awards (CARA). The ceremony was a black-tie event with awards in three categories: business, The Denton Record Chronicle, education, Joe Pinson (TWU), and individual, Kay Lamb. How blessed we are to have Kay's presence and musical contributions! I can't count the number of times Kay has participated in various Unity musical ensembles, provided vocal solos and piano accompaniments – usually while knee deep in rehearsals for community-based music projects. Congratulations Kay, and "Thank You"!!

Happy Easter, Happy Spring, Happy is as Happy sings... Thank you
Herman and Kay!

Kathryn

Movie Night on Friday, April 17th
Ambition to Meaning with Wayne Dyer
7:00 PM
\$5 suggested love offering

"Through the intertwined stories of an overachieving businessman, a mother of 2 seeking her own expression in the world, and a director trying to make a name for himself, this entertaining film not only inspires, but also teaches us how to create a life of meaning and purpose."

Our movie nights have been very meaningful and fun for all those who have attended. Our format is to show the movie and then discuss the meaning of the movie for our lives.

Ellen Davis will be basing her talks in the next few months on Wayne Dyer's book "Inspiration" so this movie is timely.

Prayer Chaplain's Corner

By Sue Greenwood

As the new Chaplain Coordinator, I want my first order of business to be the immense expression of gratitude. The church has so generously raised the funds, prayers, and consciousness to send me to the Light and Love Ministries Unity Prayer Chaplain Training in North Carolina. Ask and ye shall receive!

As I look forward to these three days, I will be reviewing the prayer chaplain principles of holding spiritual space, listening, and prayer, as well as other helping-related topics including prayer chaplain support. Rev. Lei Lanni Burt trains all Unity Chaplain coordinators/trainers and I am blessed to be learning from her! Previously, I have taken a twelve-week course in assisting others through the grief process, using the work of Elizabeth Kubler-Ross and Ram Das. I have also been a long-time follower of Steven Levine, the author and spiritual teacher who uses meditation to assist with The Transition. I am looking forward to taking all I have learned from Ev Harmon-Ahmad and the above-named teachers to this training! Only with your support has this been possible and I will have a full report upon my return!

Lastly, I would like to say how blessed I am to be leading the Prayer Chaplain Ministry at Unity of New Hope. It is my sincerest belief that we can use prayer and meditation as well as affirmations and denials to transform our lives! There will be more to come as this ministry develops. Should you have questions about prayer, special healing/prayer services, or becoming a chaplain please ask one of us. We work and function as a team; I just hold the shepherd's staff these days.

In light,

Sue Greenwood MS, RYT

Résumé and Interviewing Skills Workshop

Presented by: Sue Greenwood MS

For more than 10 years, Sue has been providing assistance in job preparation, résumé critique, interviewing techniques, and application follow up. This 90 minute workshop will include a presentation, general question and answer, interactive tips, and handouts on employment topics and resume writing! Don't Miss It!

Tuesday, April 21st 6:30-8:00pm
Unity Church of New Hope, 6071 New Hope Rd.
Aubrey, TX 76227

Suggested donation is \$10-all proceeds will go to the church!

All are welcome